

**REMARKS**

The specification at page 1 has been amended to correct a grammatical error. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 14, 29-31, 34, 41 and 42 continue to stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,688,053 to Itoh et al.

Claims 3-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Itoh in view of NIST Property Data Summaries.

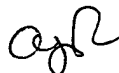
Claims 15, 16, 28, 32, 35-38 and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Itoh, in view of the previously applied Jabbar reference.

Claims 17-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Itoh in view of Jabbar, in further view of NIST Property Data Summaries.

Applicants are presently preparing a response to the outstanding rejection, and expect to file the response soon. A request for Suspension of Action (for three (3) months), RCE and Petition for Extension of Time (for one (1) month) are concurrently filed herewith.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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